

REMARKS

This communication is being filed in response to the final Office Action having a mailing date of June 5, 2006. With this filing, claims 2-6, 8-12, 14-17, 19-20, and 22-24 are pending in the present application.

In the final Office Action, claims 8-12, 19-20, and 22-24 were allowed. The applicants thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 5-6, 8, 14-15, and 17 continued to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Knapp (U.S. Patent No. 4,241,316). Claims 2-4 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knapp.

Independent claim 6 is amended to recite a resistive element --to stabilize the circuit node--, and independent claim 17 is amended to recite a resistive element --to stabilize the node--. These recitations are consistent with and/or carried from similarly worded features in the allowed claims.

It is respectfully submitted that such features in claims 6 and 17 distinguish over Knapp, since his resistor R2 does not stabilize the node. Indeed, the Examiner has recognized the distinctiveness of this feature by allowing independent claims 11, 19, and 23-24 that each contain language directed towards this feature.

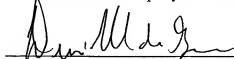
Further, it is respectfully submitted that such amendments to claims 6 and 17 can be entered and considered by the Examiner, and that such amendments do not raise new issues that would require further search and consideration. For example, such features were already previously presented for consideration in the other claims, and the Examiner has already performed a search (and considered) such a feature. The amendments to claims 16 and 17 are merely carrying over existing language from the allowed claims.

Accordingly, it is believed that all of the claims remaining in the application are now allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,

SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dennis M. de Guzman", is written over a horizontal line.

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